HISTORY OF THE SYSTEM.

were influenced only by pairiotic motives, declined to enter into contests with a spirants who sought the office only for the pecuniary benefits attached to its assume that the contest of the colony and the Complex commenced his address inciplency of law-making in the Assembly of 1619, experimental contests with a spiral the contest of the contest of the contest of the contest of the proposed and the expert decorpts of the colon tribunal, as it was in the carlier days, passed away. It is still, down to the reconstruction days the County Court was a valuable institution, enjoying the confidence and love of the propic. It

dicious progress made in the affairs of markind, in F23, had not diminished the weight and influence of his opinions in Virgoita particularly with the younger generation then appearing upon the stage of action.

Under the Constitution of 1823-39 but few officers were special by the people. Our amoestors entertained but indifferent of including a functions. The Governor and all the pudicial officers, except fustices of the peace, were elected by the Legislature. The Sheriff was gapointed by the Country ourt; and so also all military officers, below the grade of briganiers, were thus appointed on the nomination of that court. Constables and surveyors of highways were appointed by the same court. Attorneys for the Commonwealth were appointed by those courts in which they served. When the convention of 1851 was

\*\*1D.\*\*

Awe pt over the State. The candidates for that body were almost immunerable, and, with some few exceptions, vied with each other in clamorous appeals to the prejudices of the people for a radical change in the whole policy of the State touching the appointment and election of officers. The most imperiant change made by the Constitution of 1851 in the county-court system was the adoption of a provision requiring each county to be laid of into the best men in the respective counties, was true as at was just. As neither love of power nor desire for money could system was the adoption of a provision requiring each county to be laid of into the best men in the respective counties, was true as it was just. As neither love of power nor desire for money could when the state to be exceed by the people, to be commissioned by the Governor, and to hold the office for four years. The justices to be elected were also to elect a presiding justice, and to receive a per diencompensation for services in court.

GOOD MEN STILL ELECTED.

The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible for the ball of the county was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible.

The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible. The effect of this change upon the character of the court was not perceptible.

be commissioned by the Governor, and to bold the office for four years. The justices—The Old Clerks, Etc.

The address of Hon. Waller R. Stations, retiring president of the Virginia State Bar Association, delivered at the recent annual meeting of that bedy at Virginia Beach, is a most important contribution to the history and the literature of the State. Judge Staples's theme was "The Old Judge Staples's theme was "The Old Cumiy-Court System of Virginia as it Existed Before the Late War Between the States," and was treated not only from the standpoint of a lawyer, but in the standpoint of a lawyer, but the office only for the standpoint of a lawyer, but the standpoint of a lawyer, but the office only for

At a very early period, as far back as

octivation of centers with approximate who sought the office of the component of the compon

The establishment of this Court of Examination was peculiar to Virginia, and was due to the fact that, prior to 172, the General Court had exclusive jurisdiction in cases of felony. In 172, however, a statute was passed conferring to production upon the district courts for the trial of felonies, but generally the district courts were held at places very remote from the county where the offence was commutted, and the result was that both prisoner and witnesses were often required to travel a long distance only to be brought before an examining court of he county where the offence was commuted before an examining court of he county where the offence was committed before an examining court of he county where the offence was committed with the virginial register of circuit Court. The justices of each county also constituted what was known as Courts of Oyer and Terminer for the trial of slaves darked with criminal diffences of the raile of felony. The accused to the broadent was indicated to commute the sentence to transportation beyond the mits of the United States.

The Other States.

The Other States was nathorized to commute the sentence to transportation beyond the mits of the United States.

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The Other States was authorized to commute the sentence to the clerks of those courts, and the sentence to transportation beyond the mits of the United States.

The Other States was aut THE COURT-HOUSE IN POLITICS.

MR. RIVES'S RETORT.

In the course of his speech Governor MeDowell travelled out of his way to assail
the profession of law and the lawyers.
He said: "I thank God that neither my
necessities nor my inclinations have ever
led me to adopt that profession."

Mr. Rives, in his reply, raid: "I am
not a lawyer, nor the son of a lawyer,
but I thank God that there is such a
profession as law—a profession which insures to us all the protection of life,
liberty, and property. Yes, I thank God
these la a class of men augified by habit.

WITH PLEASURE AND PRIDE.

And here, I trust, I may be pardoned for saying that I recall no period of my life with more pleasure and pride than that which embraces my earliest practice before the county courts of Virginia. Of all the few triumphs and experiences I have had, it seems to me the most delightful and gratifying occurred in the practice in those courts. To others, I dars say, they would seem but trivial and common-place, but to me they have a flavor and a charm that nothing in later years can impart. I see gentlemen around me who, I am sure, would make the same confession. When a man passes the meridian, he lives more in the past than in the future; he finds more comfort and solace in the pleasures of memory than in the allurements of hope. The eyes of youth communicate their own lustre to the commonest objects, a justre which sometimes sheds a rich coloring over the cold atmosphere of maturer years. Said Christopher North to the Ettric Shepheri; "I wish James I wish the world would

whether the opinion of Chief-Justice acreshall as to the influence of the County Court on the habits and sentiments of the people was correct or not, there can be no doubt of the correctness of his views with regard to the good order and harmony which have always prevalled in the Stafe. The people of Virginia, at every period of their history, have been justly noted for their obsdience to law, the Stafe. The people of Auginia, at every period of their history, have been justly noted for their obedience to law, their respect for authority, and a sacred regard for the rights of person and pro-perty. The occasional exhibitions of mob-violence against a certain class of offeni-ers, we do not consider any just ex-ception to this rule. There is not a people on earth who, on such occasions, would ception to this rule. There is not a profic-on earth who, on such occasions, would wait the slow and tedious process of the law. Human nature is not proof against the appeal for quick and terrible punishment in such cases.

We feel an honest pride that Virginia enjoys the confidence and respect of other States; that her people sustain an honor-able reputation abroad for peaceful and well-administered State government, and able reputation abroad for peaceful and well-administered State government, and for the security of life and property, and under the influence of these prevalent notions, that foreign capital has sought investment here, that valuable injustries have been established, and enterprises of great jath and moment set on foot, and that with the return of prosperity to the country, the State will grow in weith, nopulation, and national influence. At though the innovating and aggressive spirit of the age is here. I am not one of those who think that "Old Virginia" is dead, and a new Virginia has taken her place. I rejoice that "Cld Virginia" still lives, and that she will continue to like sections as constitutional government and a love of constitutional government and a love of

THE OLD DOMINION STILL LIVES.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge re-ceipt of your publication, "Glimpiess of America," and I have spent most of the afternoon looking it over, and must say that it far exceeds my expectation, and is, without doubt, the best one that has yet appeared illustrating American scenars.

JOHN WILKES BOOTH. Rev. Dr. Garrett Graphically Describes

His Tragic Death.

EDWIN BOOTH'S LETTERS.

Three That flave Never Before Been Published-In One the Great Actor Speaks of the Power of Prayer.

(Baltimore Herald.)

Rev. Dr. R. B. Garrett, of Austin, Tex. who preached at Brantly Baptist church yesterday, is perhaps the only man living who witnessed the death of John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln. Although at the time Dr. Garrett was but 12 years old, the events are stamped indelibly upon his memory.

In his room at the Howard House yesterday he described in an interesting way the events, which occurred nearly thirty

"My father," said Dr. Garrett, "who was Richard Garrett, fived on a farm about two and one half miles south of Port Royal, Va. About 3 o'clock on the afternoon of April 24, 1955, three men came to our farm gate. Two of them were the uniforms of Confederate sol-diers, while the third was dressed in the garb of a civilian. The civilian was riding a horse, and was suffering from an injured leg. My father was called to the gate, and the men introduced them-selves as Captain lett, Lieutenant Rug-gles, and the injured man, who was John Willes Buth although my father was siles, and the injured man, who was John Willies Booth, although my father was not aware of it at the time, was introduced as James W. Boyd. The officers said that he had been wounded by Feieral soldiers, and asked if he might stop until his wounds became better, or until he was able to travel. My father consented, and Boyd was lifted from the horse. With the aid of a crutch which he carried, and with the assistance of my father, he hobbied into the yard. My mother brought out a large arm-chair and a pillow, and the injured man was made as comfortable as possible on the greensward.

"After remaining for a short time the officers who accompanied Mr. Boyd left. My father and myself remained in the yard with the injured man for some time,

serving in the Confederate army, returned home on a furlough. When supper was announced we helped Mr. Boyd into the dining-room, and the family, with the wounded stranger, sat down to supper. "The supper seemed to revive our guest, and during the meal his spirits revived and a very pleasant hour was seent. My two brothers, fresh from the scenes of conflict, related stories which were listened to with considerable interest by our guest. Both of my brothers were the Confederate gray, which was torn and very much worn. f my brothers were the Confederate gray, thich was torn and very much worn, ording the meal Mr. Boyl said he had an iea of rejoining the forces as soon as his ajury would permit, and asked one of my rothers if he would trade his uniform for he civilian dress worn by him. The sit worn by Mr. Boyd was next, and of he finest texture, and my brother passed he remark oft as a meaningless joke. Mr. Boyd was persistent, however, and finally orther declined for the reason that he vished to keep the uniform on account of he associations connected with it. After little or the hours were spent in general

When Mr. Boyd retired, we assisted him to andress. My childish curtosity was attracted to a belt containing two big pistols and a pearl-handlet revolver, which he ming on the hed-post. A pair of pearl opera-glasses were also laid on a chair. HELL NEVER FORGET THAT FACE

"With this John Wilkes Booth passed away. On his right arm was his name in india mk. This, if nothing else, fully established his identity, which has so often been doubted. The lock of hair, or part of it, I have etill in my possession. The other part I sent to his mother about ten or twelve years ago. Mr. I. C. Haas, who was then the bublisher of the Baitimorean, in this city, sent me a letter when I was living in West Virginia, saying that Edwin Booth had authorized him to get his mother's lock of hair, then in my possession. I wrote to Edwin Booth in regard to the matter, and received the following letter:

Booth and myself, have ever appeared in print. In answer to my letter, he wrote the following:

"MOUNT VERNON HOTEL, "BALTIMORE, March 15, 1877.

"BALTIMORE, March 15, 1877.

"R. B. Garrett, Esq.:

"Dear Sir.—No one has been authorized to solicit the souvenir you possess, none of the family being aware of its existence. The painful subject is never referred to by any of us, although, of course, everything associated with the unfortunate boy is sacred to his heart-broken mother, and I am sure the relic you have preserved will be dearly prized by her, should you be willing to let her have it. Your family has the warmest thanks for the kindness shown to him, whose madness wrought so much ill to us.

"Very truly yours.

"EDWIN BOOTH."

"I sent the memento, and it was three years until I heard from him. I then received a case of books and the following letter:
"NEW YORK, January 15, 1899,
"Mr. R. B. Garrett:

"'Mr. R. B. Garrett:

"'Dear Sir,-You will please me very much by your acceptance of the accompanying volumes, which I have requested my friend, Mr. Harrison, of Baitimore, to procure and forward to your address, With kind regard and good wishes I remain, truly yours. EDWIN BOOTH.'

EDWIN BOOTH ON PRAYER. "The last letter received from Mr. tooth places him in an entirely differ-"The last letter received from all.
Booth places him in an entirely different light, as to religious matters, than the light in which I had ever considered him. Is speaks for itself, and no doubt will be read with a great deal of interest by his thousands of friends and admirers; "NEW YORK, February 22, 1889.
"R. B. Garrett, E-q.:

"R. B. Garrett, Esq.:

"Dear Sir,—The knowledge that my littie gifts afford you so much gratification,
and will be of zervice to you, amply repays me, though your thanks are none the
less welcome, for I know they are sincere,
as I am sure your prayers for me will be.
Wishing for you the same blessing you
ask of God for me, I am, sincerely yours,
"EDWIN BOOTH."

Rev. Dr. Garrett has many relies and

Rev. Dr. Garrett has many relics and mementoes of the sad event witnessed when but a boy on his father's porch. Among them are the blood-stained cot and pillow on which Booth died, a lock of the assassin's hair, and piece of his clothing. Owing to I'r, Garrett's failing health he has given up his charge in Texas, and will enter the lecture field this fall under the direction of Rev. Dr. Wharton, of Brantly Raptist church.

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FOR TABLE LINEN.

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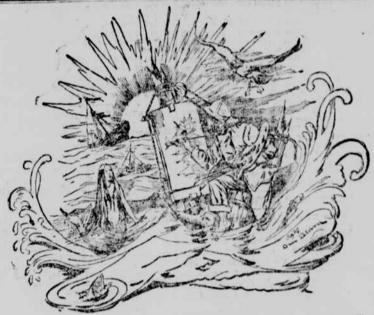
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### "NOTHING VENTURE= -NOTHING HAVE."

WHE adventurous and intreped marine artist pictured above has ventured all, in order to secure on his canvas a startling and picturesque "subject." Lashed to a spar and seated on an empty cask, with an easel rigged out of a broken mast and a splintered boom, he rapidly sketches the fast disappearing wreck, to the astonishment of

The Gulls, the Mermaids, and the Little Fishes.

### He Has Ventured

into mid-ocean to portray an event of startling interest for the information of the world.

### Other Artists Have Ventured

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"Although importuned time and time again by the press, this is the first time these letters, which passed between Edwin